



Drawn by William Dring, A.R.A.

EDWARD JONES is what is known as the "stageman" at a limestone quarry on the coast of North Wales. It is his duty to supervise the berthing and loading of coastwise steamers which call at the little jetty to carry limestone away to the chemical works, where it is used for making domestic washing-soda or soda ash and caustic for Industry. Mr. Jones was born in 1883 at the Welsh coast village of Llandulas and lives in a cottage on the shore 40 yards from the jetty. His whole working career of 42 years has

been passed there, except for a break during the war of 1914-18 when he served as an Air Mechanic (First-class) in the Royal Naval Air Service. For 30 years he was a member of the crew of the Llandulas Lifeboat and his hobbies of boating and fishing keep him more afloat than ashore. In 1923 he took over his present job from his father who had held it for 35 years. Since then he has seen some 7,900 vessels loaded with over 3,000,000 tons of limestone. He has been responsible for each one of these being berthed safely in spite of difficult tides, winter gales and wartime black-out. Ned Jones is a cheerful man-of-the-sea. His lifelong association with the coast and the expert knowledge of the local tides and currents gained during his years as lifeboatman and fisherman fit him exceptionally for his duties. He has three daughters but no son to carry on the job which he and his father have held so successfully for over half a century.



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The Times (London, England), Wednesday, Nov 07, 1945; pg. 3; Issue 50293. (293 words)

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Gale Document Number:CS50544999